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12 October 1962

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The Honorable U. Alexis Johnson
Deputy Under Secretary for Political Affairs
Department of State
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

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You will recall that in February of this year when [redacted] and myself discussed with you the broad area of relations between the Department and the Central Intelligence Agency, the matter of an exchange of officers was raised. It was generally agreed among us that such an exchange would serve to increase the mutual understanding between the Department and the Agency and to draw us closer together in our work. I believe we also agreed that there were several places in both organizations where exchange personnel could serve in a productive fashion.

The purpose of this letter is to make a specific proposal as to how this exchange could be implemented. It is suggested that our objective should be ultimately to have three officers from each organization on assignment with the other. We would also propose that these three officers be of varying ranks, ranging from the most senior down to mid-career. We would propose on our side to assign the most senior officer, preferably of Ambassadorial rank and certainly not lower than Minister, to the Board of National Estimates. We would also suggest that the second ranking officer assigned to CIA, in the FSO 1 or 2 category, be assigned (depending on his previous experience) to one of the offices of the Deputy Director for Intelligence where he would have an important vista on a vital aspect of our work with which the Department of State is directly concerned. We would intend to place him in a position that has particular interest to the Department of State at the time of his assignment. Finally, we would envisage that the third officer, of mid-career, be assigned to the Planning Staff of our Office of Training, but with broad responsibility as a lecturer and instructor, obviously utilizing his knowledge of the Foreign Service.

While I do not wish to presume to suggest to the Department of State where CIA personnel should be assigned, as a point of departure for discussions, it would appear that our senior assignee, who would be of the level of Office Chief or Deputy, could make a useful contribution to the Policy Staff or perhaps could work directly with your office. Secondly, I would suggest that the second ranking officer from CIA, who would come from the Chief of Station category or its equivalent on the intelligence production side of the house, might be assigned to some spot in Mr. Hillemann's office. Third, it would appear to me to be very logical, in view of the increasing relationship between our training components, that our third ranking officer, again in the mid-career category, might be assigned to the Foreign Service Institute.

It would seem reasonable that these assignments should be for not less than two nor more than three years, with the understanding that if either organization had a critical demand for one of the assignees the tour of duty could be shortened. It would appear reasonable also to suggest that each of us advise the other of candidates under consideration so that we could both have a voice in the assignments. I would be glad to discuss this proposal with you at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Executive Director

LBK:kg;rcm
Orig & 1 - addressee
1 - ER
1 - Exec Dir